

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County



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LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Norbert Dantinne, Jr., Chair
Dave Kaster, Vice Chair
Bernie Erickson, Dave Landwehr, Tom Sieber, Norb Vande Hei

LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday, November 25, 2013

6:00 p.m. (PD&T to Follow)

Room 161, UW Extension

1150 Bellevue Street

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY TAKE ACTION ON
ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

- I. Call Meeting to Order.
- II. Approve/Modify Agenda.
- III. Approve/modify minutes of Land Conservation Subcommittee of October 28, 2013.
- IV. Discussion regarding December Land Conservation Subcommittee meeting.

Comments from the Public

1. Budget Status Financial Report for September 30, 2013.
2. Presentation by John Kennedy of NEW Water regarding "Dead Zones in Green Bay"
3. Director's Report.
4. Such other matters as authorized by law.
5. Adjourn.

Norb Dantinne, Jr., Chair

Notice is hereby given that action by the Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda. Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Monday, October 28, 2013 in Room 161, UW Extension, 1150 Bellevue Street

Present: Supervisor Bernie Erickson, Supervisor Tom Sieber, Supervisor Dave Landwehr, Supervisor Dave Kaster, Supervisor Dantine, Norb Van De Hei
Also Present: Director Jim Jolly, Director Jon Bechle, Executive Streckenbach. Supervisors Jamir and Lund. Lynn Vanden Langenberg, Carolyn Maricque, Dan Process, Robin VanRemortel, and other interested parties.

I. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dantine at 5:30 p.m.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

**Motion made by Supervisor Kaster, seconded Supervisor Erickson to approve. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. Approve/modify minutes of Land Conversation Subcommittee of September 23, 2013.

**Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by N. Vande Hei to approve. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Comments from the Public: None

BUDGET REVIEW

REVIEW OF 2014 DEPARTMENT BUDGET

1. Land and Water Conservation – Review of 2014 department budget.

Land and Water Conservation Director Jim Jolly referred to pg. 197 in the budget book and briefly went over their mission, program description and performance measures for their department. With regard to their five-year work plan, which was passed by the board last summer, he had received a lot of feedback on it stating it was one of more aggressive five-year work plans in the whole state. He was proud of the recognition for that. They had some significant increases in every performance factor that they were working on this year for the next year. They were able to do that by taking the 4% levy increase that they did receive from their adjusted 2013 levy; their original levy target was \$463,000 for 2013. They eliminated staff. They leveraged over \$130,000 in federal revenue to increase services in the county. The \$130,000 was generated with the new initiatives.

New Initiatives:

NRCS EQIP/WLI Contribution Agreement – In 2014, Land and Water Conservation staff were cooperating with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to implement its Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) program, which helps landowners and land users to plan and implement conservation practices on farms to improve and protect the natural

resources within the county. Brown County directly benefits by utilizing this three-year agreement to help implement the County's obligations under the State's Working Lands Initiative program.

Jolly informed that this was the first cooperative venture with them and NRCS had over \$3M that they were providing to the county for cost sharing in which they will be able to take advantage of that now with their working lands people. Another good thing about the initiative, it got landowners to the base level of conservation. Then they were eligible to receive water quality trading credits. He felt this was important.

NRCS Great Lakes Farm Demonstration Network Agreement – A five-year project that will establish a network of "demonstration farms" within the Lower Fox River Basin to show farmers and the general public that the right combination of traditional conservation practices and other innovative technologies functioning on the landscape can produce viable and sustainable economic and environmental benefits. The driver for this multi-agency/private partnership is to find cost effective solutions to offset the massive sector costs that will be incurred by point source dischargers within the basin due to new EPA regulation which mandated reductions of phosphorus and total suspended solids. Jolly added that this was a very important effort and the results will show that they can do phosphorus reduction for a lot cheaper on the landscape than in town.

Page 198 - Department Reorganization - The 2014 budget includes a departmental reorganization and subsequent position reclassifications to better carry out the department's mission and activities. This reorganization will reduce management staff, shifting duties to the field staff. The department hosted a LEAN Kaizen event early in 2013, and this initiative was identified as one of the ways to efficiently eliminate waste and improve customer service. Reorganization also creates a customary succession plan and improves supervisor consistency resulting in uniform performance plans/evaluations and overall program direction. By redrafting the position descriptions, it better reflects the skills, qualifications and certifications necessary to adequately perform the duties essential to the department and will result in a more flexible workforce, better cross-training and increase efficiencies. Jolly stated his appreciation for Lynn Vanden Langenberg and Tom Smith in HR and some of the Administration staff for all of their help in this process and give them credit for the amount of savings realized. Every job description in their department was redefined. Duties were increased and raised experience requirements for every position. Also, over the last five years, that State mandates now required their staff to have a lot more job certifications, licensures, etc. This was the basis of the move to reorganize the department and staff positions.

Summary Highlights

Intergovernmental revenue increased to reflect Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding as well as additional funding for Targeted Resource Management grants and the Westshore Habitat Restoration project. However, these increases were partially offset by the elimination of Baird Creek grant revenue and expected contribution revenue for the department to provide engineering services for animal storage facilities that did not occur. Public charges decreased mainly in permit fees; and other finance sources decreased with the removal of a transfer in from Human Resources for sick leave payout in 2013.

Personnel costs increase to reflect a departmental reorganization and the subsequent reclassification of positions as well as the addition of 1.0FTE limited-term Project Manager and 1.0 FTE Engineering Technician dedicated to the NRCS grant projects. Operating expenses

increased due to landowner payments related to the Targeted Resource Management grants and the Westshore Habitat Restoration project; however, these costs were slightly offset by a decrease in Westshore project supplies as well as tree supplies for the Brown County Conservation Alliance. There were no outlay requests for the department in 2014.

Jolly stated that the big picture, why they do what they do, they had a lot looming on the horizon that they will be a big part of. They had a growing dead zone in the Bay of Green Bay, a lot of that was from runoff pollution, phosphorus that got into the Bay. They were the department that would hopefully deliver solutions to that. They were looking at massive infrastructure costs for municipalities, wastewater treatment plants industry, in the next 15 years. If they don't have a solution for that, everyone was going to pay a lot more and they felt they could do it cheaper and be at the forefront of that solution. They were the only viable delivery system in the county for doing this conservation work. NRCS exists but they only have a couple staff. They shy away anything controversial. Although they had good working agreements and arrangements with them, they were relying on the county to get the work done.

A lot of rural people don't have a connection with county services but they were a direct link to county services to rural constituents in this county. When they call about things that were going on, a lot of times they call their department. Their staff had been around for a lot of years.

Landwehr stated that he may have been a bit harsh on some of the budget items but in thinking over and working it through, he would support the plan.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Kaster to move forward to the County Board. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- a. **Resolution Approving New or Deleted Positions during the 2014 Budget Process (Land and Water Conservation).**

Motion made by Supervisor Erickson, seconded by Supervisor Landwehr to approve and move forward to the Executive Committee. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Non-Budget Items

2. **Budget Status Financial Report for August, 2013.**

Jolly informed that they were right where they should be. They were tracking similar to where they were last year and should be on target at the end of the year.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Kaster to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Such other matters as authorized by law.**
4. **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by N. Vande Hei to adjourn at 5:54 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia A. Loehlein

**Brown County Land & Water Conservation
Budget Status Report
September 30, 2013**

| | <u>2013 Amended Budget</u> | <u>2013 YTD Transactions</u> | | <u>2012 Amended Budget</u> | <u>2012 YTD Transactions</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Salaries PER | \$429,939.00 | \$282,070.97 | Salaries PER | \$464,816.00 | \$337,475.83 |
| Fringe Benefits FBT | \$160,860.00 | \$110,109.54 | Fringe Benefits FBT | \$205,680.00 | \$139,683.06 |
| Operations & Maintenance | \$33,711.00 | \$22,291.65 | Operations & Maintenance | \$27,919.00 | \$22,989.36 |
| UTL Utilities | \$2,000.00 | \$77.29 | UTL Utilities | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| CHG Chargebacks | \$126,262.00 | \$91,543.26 | CHG Chargebacks | \$121,444.00 | \$88,977.07 |
| CON Contracted services | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | CON Contracted services | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| OTH Other | \$90,357.00 | \$13,360.53 | OTH Other | \$110,242.00 | \$15,938.99 |
| OUT- Outlay | \$29,163.00 | \$27,540.00 | OUT- Outlay | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| TRO - Transfer out | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | TRO - Transfer out | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$872,292.00 | \$546,993.24 | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$930,101.00 | \$605,064.31 |
| Property Tax Revenue | \$392,030.00 | \$294,022.53 | Property Tax Revenue | \$526,321.00 | \$394,740.72 |
| Intergov't'l Revenue | \$246,520.00 | \$166,335.01 | Intergov't'l Revenue | \$248,483.00 | \$152,382.16 |
| L&P licenses & permits | \$47,000.00 | \$40,602.00 | L&P licenses & permits | \$50,957.00 | \$17,300.00 |
| CSS - Charges for sales services | \$96,000.00 | \$92,815.24 | CSS - Charges for sales services | \$96,000.00 | \$53,328.93 |
| Intergov't'l charges for services | \$75,000.00 | \$0.00 | Intergov't'l charges for services | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Misc Rev. | \$0.00 | \$250.00 | Misc Rev. | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| TRI Transfer in | \$15,742.00 | \$11,896.50 | TRI Transfer in | \$9,218.00 | \$4,523.50 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | \$872,292.00 | \$605,921.28 | TOTAL REVENUES | \$930,979.00 | \$622,275.31 |

Land and Water Conservation September 30, 2013



